

REMARKS

Claims 2-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 2-20 have been allowed.

Claim 21 has been rejected.

Claim 22-26 have been objected to.

Claim 21 has been amended as set forth herein.

Claim 1 has been previously cancelled.

Claims 2-26, as amended, remain pending in this application.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 21 was objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 21 status should be changed to – previously amended— since there was no change made to Claim 21 with status listed as “currently amended.” Claim 21 was supposed to have been amended (but was not amended) in the previous Amendment of February 11, 2008. That is why Claim 21 was marked as “currently amended” in the Amendment of February 11, 2008. Claim 21 has been amended in this present Amendment. That is why its status remains as “currently amended.”

The Applicant respectfully submits that the objection to Claim 21 has been overcome.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS -- 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,058,032 to Iacono et al. In response, the Applicant has amended Claim 21 to add claim limitations to Claim 21.

A prior art reference anticipates the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only if every element of a claimed invention is identically shown in that single reference, arranged as they are in the claims. MPEP § 2131, p. 2100-76 (8th ed., rev. 4, October 2005) (*citing In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 832, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566, 1567 (Fed. Cir. 1990)). Anticipation is only shown where each and every limitation of the claimed invention is found in a single prior art reference. *Id.* (*citing Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)).

Claim 21 has been amended to add the limitations of original Claim 2. Accordingly, amended Claim 21 is now believed to be allowable over the cited prior art. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 102 anticipation rejection of Claim 21.

III. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 2-20 have been allowed over the prior art.

Claims 22-26 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim (Claim 21), but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the Applicant's amendment of Claim 21, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 22-26 are now allowable.

CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the claims in the patent application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests an early allowance of such claims. If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this patent application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at wmunck@munckcarter.com.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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